In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 2-4, 6 – 16, 18 – 20, and 22;

Please withdraw Claims 25 – 28; and

Please amend Claims 1, 5, 17, 21, 23 and 24, as follows:

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. (Currently Amended) A valve system lifter for use with a cam and a push rod in a combustion engine, the lifter comprising:

a lifter body comprising a first metal, the lifter body being adapted for connection to a push rod;

a face pad, comprising a second metal different from the first metal, attached to the lifter body for contacting a cam; and

a connector material that attaches said face pad to the lifter body, the connector material comprising at least one metal that is different from said first metal and said second metal;

wherein said lifter body is ferrous material selected from the group consisting of cast iron, steel, and stainless steel, and wherein said lifter body is not heat-treated;

wherein said face pad is selected from the group consisting of metal carbide, tungsten carbide, titanium carbide, niobium carbide, tungsten carbide, tantalum carbide, and niobium carbide; and

said connector material comprises three layers, which are first and second layers comprising silver, and a third layer comprising copper between said first and second layers.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled).

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A valve system lifter as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the connector material third layer comprises a copper, zinc, and cadmium center ~~with outer layers of silver~~.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A valve system lifter as in Claim 1[[6]], wherein the face pad is a disc 75 - 150 thousandths of an inches thick, the connector material is 10 - 20 thousandths of an inch thick.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A valve system lifter as in Claim 1[[6]], wherein each of the layers comprising silver are 2 - 8 thousandths of an inch thick, and the layer comprising copper is about 10 - 14 thousandths of an inch thick.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A valve system lifter as set forth in Claim 1 [[22]], wherein said connector material comprises silver, copper, cadmium, zinc and nickel.

24. (Currently Amended) A valve system lifter as set forth in Claim 23, wherein said ~~connector includes three layers, which are a central~~ third layer is [[of]] a mixture of said copper, cadmium, zinc and nickel, and said first and second layers are two outer layers on opposing sides of the third ~~central~~ layer comprising silver.

25. (Withdrawn) A method of making a combustion engine lifter, the method comprising:

providing a connector wafer comprising silver;

providing a lifter body of a first metal;

providing a lifter face pad of a second metal different from said first metal;

providing a connector wafer comprising silver in between said lifter body and said face pad; and

induction welding said connector wafer between the lifter body and the lifter face pad, wherein said silver liquefies and bond the face pad to the body.

26. (Withdrawn) A method as in Claim 25, wherein said connector wafer comprises silver and at least one metal different from said first metal and said second metal.

27. (Withdrawn) A method as in Claim 25, comprising rounding the face pad to have a radiused outer edge.

28. (Withdrawn) A method as in Claim 25, comprising grinding the face pad to have a radius in the range of 55 - 70 inches.